IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Canceled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An optical connector socket comprising:

a body having a socket-side optical device installed therein and an insertion section to which a connected optical connector plug is inserted,

a cover that is covered on the body and having a front frame section, the front frame section having [[has]] an opening section communicating with the insertion section[[,]];

a shutter ~~operably~~ openably and closably attached to the cover for closing the opening section and ~~an elastic member~~ a helical spring that always elastically urges the shutter in a closing direction, against a back surface of the frame section;

wherein the opening section is set to have an outside dimension greater than the outside dimension of the optical connector plug inserted into the cover and smaller than the outside dimension of the shutter; [[and]]

wherein the helical spring urges the shutter so as to bring all the periphery of the shutter into abutment with a back surface of the first frame section;

wherein a guide projection is provided at the inside of the insertion section of the body for guiding the inserted optical connector plug toward the socket-side optical device, and

wherein the guide projection becomes narrower toward the backside of the insertion section.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The optical connector socket claimed in Claim 2, wherein there is provided at the backside from the guide projection a locking recess section that engages with a locking convex section provided on an outer surface of the optical connector plug.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The optical connector socket claimed in Claim 2 or 3, wherein the socket-side optical device is composed of a light-emitting device and a light-receiving device.

Claim 5 (Canceled)